

## S825Day Paddles - St Johns River East Watershed

## Julington Creek Paddle Information Sheet

**Description:** Launching from Palmetto Leaves Park, you will paddle down a small canal and then under the Old St Augustine Rd bridge. Restrooms and picnic tables are available. The launch is a floating dock, with an attachment for handicapped paddlers. Julington is a small pretty creek, with only a few houses. This creek is part of the Julington-Durbin Preserve. It continues under Old St Augustine Road and goes into a swamp which is possible to paddle if water level is sufficient. Take out is at the Mandarin Park Ramp on the right just after the San Jose Blvd Bridge and before entering the St Johns River.

**Skill Level:** Novice

**Distance/Approximate Time:** 3.5 Miles/2 Hours

**Launch Site:** Palmetto Leaves Regional Park Paddle Launch

**Takeout Site:** Hood Landing Ramp (Clark's Fish Camp)

**Special Considerations:** If you plan to return to Palmetto Leaves, it is essential to take note of the canal leading to/from the ramp. Missing the turn will put you in the swamp where it is possible to get lost. This paddle requires shuttling. Mandarin Park ramp can be busy on weekends.

### Skill Level Definitions

**Beginner:** New to paddling and may need tips and or instructions about paddling strokes, safety procedures, and entering/exiting kayaks. Comfortable on short trips of 1 to 3 miles on protected waters, when wind does not exceed 5 mph.

**Novice:** Paddlers acquainted with basic paddle strokes and can manage kayak handling independently in winds not exceeding 10 mph on protected waters. Comfortable on trips up to 6 miles.

**Intermediate:** Paddlers with experience in basic strokes and some experience on different venues, including some open water. Comfortable on trip distances of 6 to 10 miles, winds not exceeding 15 mph.

**Advanced:** Seasoned paddlers who possess skills and experience to paddle all venues and conditions. Experienced in self-rescues. Should be comfortable paddling more than 10 miles in a day.

**NOTE:** Great care has been taken to ensure this guides accuracy, but weather, tides, and water conditions can change rapidly and create hazardous conditions. These maps are for visual reference only, please consult NOAA Charts for navigation. Paddlers should have all proper safety equipment and check conditions before departure. All paddlers should always wear PFDs while on the water, and leave a float plan. There are inherent dangers in any paddle sport. There are special hazards along the Florida coast due to shifting tides, changing wind and weather, shallow waters, and treacherous bottoms with soft mud, rocks, and oyster bars. It is up to each paddler to be aware of these dangers, to accept and be prepared for the risks involved, and to be certain they have the skills to safely paddle in these conditions.